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FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris, June 23.

PUBLIC attention is now taken up with the elections, and the expedition to Algiers almost to the exclusion of every other subject: the former appear to be proceeding quite *en liberal* and of course by no means to the satisfaction of the king, who, notwithstanding his proclamation, is supposed to be very anxious for a result very different from that which now appears probable—the preponderance of liberal opinions in the Chamber of Deputies. As to the expedition, the effect produced upon the public mind does not appear to be at all what was intended, viz. the infusion of a new love for military fame, so as to enable ministers to carry on the war at home against liberal doctrines without dread of opposition. The speculation was upon its face a good one, for the French people had been governed by a military hero, who was able to rivet the chains of despotism by first taking care to gild the links and dazzle the eye of those whose senses he captured; but the day for such governments is gone by—the French are become a more reasonable and reasoning people than they were, and it is not for persons who possess the desire for treading in the steps of Napoleon, without his talent for government, to enslave as he did the minds and persons of the people. I never saw so little enthusiasm displayed as on the present occasion—there is, it is true, the same delight at hearing of the achievements of the army as there used to be in the days of Buonaparte, but their respect for those who planned was then mixed with admiration of those who executed—now the expression of feeling is very different—‘*Nous admirons*’ said an old gentleman to me yesterday in the Palais Royal, ‘*Nous admirons les jeunes héros que combattent pour l’honneur de la France en Afrique, mais nous n’oublions pas le motif de ceux qui les y ont envoyés.*’ This seems to be the sentiment not only among the liberals but even amongst many of an opposite party. As to the ladies, they seem to put take little interest in the matter. In former campaigns the name of a captured town or place, or of a battle in which the French were victorious, was a little fortune to the dress-makers, milliners and linen drapers of Paris: hats, gowns, shawls, handkerchiefs, almost every article of dress underwent some change, in colour or form, with a new name; but now the name of Algiers is known only by the telegraphic despatches, or the accounts in the newspapers.

Some splendid fêtes have been given here in honour of the king and queen of Naples, that of the Duke of Orleans, which was given in the palais royal, you must have seen noticed in all the newspapers, but without the mention of one fact which reflects great credit upon the Duke of Orleans, and shows the different way in which literary men and artists are considered in their country, from the rank they hold in Great Britain. Amongst the guests invited to meet their Sicilian majesties on this occasion, there were more than two hundred literary men and artists, many of whom were introduced particularly to the king by the Duke of Orleans, about fifty of the company were editors of newspapers, magazines, and other periodicals. I think I hear you exclaim, “can this be possible.” Yes, it is possible and true, and very honorable to the French nobility, whose accessibility and condescension are very great. When General Santander, the late vice president of Colombia, was in Paris, he expressed great surprise at the ease with which persons of the middling classes obtain access to the nobility in France, and the condescension with which they are treated. The General had formed a different idea of the aristocracy. This said he, is even more familiar and agreeable than the republicanism of south America. Santander is now gone to London, where I am sure, that notwithstanding his late high rank, his talents and his agreeable manners, he will find the nobility much less accessible. But to return to their Sicilian majesties; on Monday last, the Spanish Ambassador entertained them in great style. To have seen the preparations for this fête, one would not have imagined that the Ambassador was the representative of a government without finances. The rooms were decorated in the most expensive style, and the banquetting hall was fitted up to represent the court yard of the Lions in the Moorish palace of the Alhambra. There was abundant provision also for eating and drinking, for the fashion of giving only tea, eau sucrée, limonade, sorbets and oranges is going out rapidly; and good solid food and expensive wines are expected, I grieve to see the change, for if carried to any extent, it will be the destruction of good society. Hitherto, parties have been frequent, because the expense attending them was small. Fifty persons of the highest rank could be entertained during the evening for as many

franks, but if the English system gets into vogue, it will require as many pounds, and consequently only persons of wealth would be able to give parties, and none but people from whom favour and influence are expected will be invited.

The use of cotton as applied to burns and scalds, is now becoming general in the French hospitals, as it is found to be very efficacious; the discovery of this remedy was one of pure chance. The wife of an American, whose child had been severely burnt, having laid it on an open bale of cotton, was astonished to find its cries cease almost instantly. Being a sensible woman, she guessed at the cause, and by covering the child's wounds with cotton for two or three weeks, they were completely healed. The theatre of the opera comique, remains closed, in consequence of the insolvency of the management, several of the first French singers are therefore without employment, and Miss Smithson who was engaged at a salary of £60 per week, is of course among the sufferers.

A French paper, *le Voleur*, contains the following account of a remarkable invention. I do not however guarantee the infallibility of the discovery, "a Swede," says the *Voleur*, "has invented a machine to heat rooms without fire; it is very simple, and is composed of two wheels placed parallel, but turning in opposite directions with great rapidity, the agitation of the air produces a heat equal to that from a stove," I should be inclined to say from a stove without fire.

There is a very interesting letter in the *Nieu-en advertente blad*, dated June 12th, from the Chateau of Loo, giving an account of a Bavarian born blind, who can by his mouth alone, produce the most melodious sounds and harmonies of a number of musical instruments. The most remarkable of all are his flute duos,

ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY.

June 28th, 1830.

The Academy merely met and adjourned to Monday, July 12, in consequence of the lamented demise of his Majesty. The following donations were presented at the preceding meeting of council:—Reflections on the Decline of Science in England, by Charles Babbage, Esq. &c. &c. presented by the author. Address of Earl Stanhope, president of the Medico-Botanical Society for the anniversary meeting, 1830; sent by the society.

On the Siamese Twins, by G. B. Bolton, Esq. with a wax model of the fleshy band which unites them, presented by Mr. Bolton.

and the sound of a harmonica which resembles the exquisite music of the Eolian harp.

An improvement in lithography has just been introduced by a young artist, named Bernard Doundorf of Berlin, who has adopted a process already used in engravings in brass. The lithographic stone is composed of a calcareous *chiste* intersected by hard veins and pieces of quartz, which the needle now in use cannot cut through with ease. M. Doundorf has invented the adoption of diamond points cut with great care, and fixed in a handle. These points cannot wear away, and pass without any impediment through the defective part of the stone. When attached to a compass, they trace the letters with a regularity which could not be attained by the hand. By means of this process, the invention has already worked without trouble the stones of Prussia, which hitherto could be employed only after great labour.

Another French paper says, "The principal topic of conversation at Maestrel, is the criminal proceeding instituted against the clergyman of Mechelens, for having in conjunction with two Acolytes, inflicted the punishment of the knout on a poor woman, being anxious by this gentle mode of correction, to induce her to live virtuously with her husband: the instrument by which this work of charity was to be consummated, was nothing less than the cord of the church clock; since the first examination of witnesses by the civil magistrate, the *Journal of Ghent*, which is the organ of the bigoted party, has exhausted its ingenuity in efforts to hush the matter up, and has actually endeavoured to persuade the public that this reverend redressor of a husband's wrong is a poor simpleton with an excess of mad zeal, but unhappily of no discretion. The wretch, however, will be prosecuted.

Two very interesting Essays were to have been read on the double refraction of light, and on the rectification of conic sections, both by — Mc. Cullagh, Esq. presented by Dr. Sadleir.

We have much pleasure in announcing that the first part of the 16th volume of the Royal Irish Academy Transactions, containing Mr. D'Alton's Essay on the ancient History of Ireland, and a scientific paper, will be published in the course of the ensuing week. With the value of the former, the readers of our *Weekly Gazette* have been already made somewhat acquainted. Of the latter it may be enough at present to say, that it is from the pen of Professor Hamilton.